House Building Advance to employees of Central Government Consumers Coperative Society Ltd.

1334. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not sanctioning the House Building Advances to the employees of Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Ltd., New Delhi by its management;

(b) whether Government propose t» issue instructions to the CGECC Society authorities to make their employees eligible for such Advance and to treat them at par with other Government employees in this respect; and

(c) if so, by when, and if not, <he rea sons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Keeping in view the constraint of resources and to maintain parity with similar Organisations, it is not considered by the management at this stage to give House Build, ing Advance to Employees.

(b) and (c) No Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society is an autonomous body registered under the Cooperative Societies' Act' afld is administered by the Board of Directors as per provisions laid down under the byelaws of the Society the employees of the Society can, therefore, not be treated at par with the Central Government Employees.

Approach Paper tor the 8th Five year Plan

1335. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to siatt:

(ft) whether an Approach Paper has een prepared for the Eighth Han; awl

(b) if so, the details of the Approach Paper in regard to different sectors and the investments proposed in them?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper to the Eighth Five Year Plan is being formulated. It will the* be placed before the National Development Council.

Functioning of Public Sector DndertaUngv under Ministry of Defence

1336. SHRI KAPIL VERMA;
SHRIMATI VEENA VERJIA;
SHRIMATl SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATTL;

Will the "Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state what measures are being taken to improve the functioning of public sector undertakings under the Ministry and to adopt a new production strategy and what are public sector undertakings out of them which have idle .capacity utilisation and cosf and time overruns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE .PRO DUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI 'PANIGRAHI). The performance of the "Defence Public Sec tor Undertakings is reviewed on a regu lar basis and the deficiencies in perfor mance discussed and steps taken for .their rectification. Emphasis *is* laid on achie vement of targets relating to pro duction, sales, profits, improvement in productivity levels, indigenisation, taven-tory control, capacity utilisation, and and time & cost over-runs in projects etc. In particular to ensure continued capa city utilisation, the Defence PSUs have also been advised to gear themselves for exlports. The percentages of capacity utilisation vary from Company to Com pany and from time to time. Of the eight Defence PSUs, capacity utilisation

is very satisfactory in six. In the re-mainifig two. corrective measures arc being taken to improve capacity utilisation. Cost aid time over-runs are related to specific projects and steps are being taken in each case "to arrest this trend.

French Defence Minister's visit to India

1337. SHRIMATl RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be plesed to state:

(a) whether It is a fact that during the French Defence Minister's visit to lndia in December, 1988 some' Defence agreements had been signed;

(b) if so, the details of the same; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative/what discussions took place during his stay in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODU. CTION AND SUPPrEE3 IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI); (a) to (c) During this visit, a consultancy agreement wag signed with M/s. SOFMA of france for the Concept Design study of a sea Control ship.

Launching of Somidlnj. Rockets from Thrnnba

1538. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to s.tate

(al what are the total sounding rockets launched from Thumba so far and how many pay loads were placed in sounding rockets during 1988-89 and how many of them are Indian payloads; and

(b) what in the total cost of expenditure involved in launching a Single sounding rocket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Total number of sounding rockets launched from Thumba upto the end of lanuary, 1989 is 1943. This include weekly meteorological rocket fights since December 1970, those carried out for the development of different types of sounding rockets and for conducting large number *oi* observations for the investigation of the earth's atmosphere, ionospheric/magnetospheric phenomena and radiation emitted by galactic x-ray sources.

Total number of scientific payloads launched during 1988-89 is 98 out of which 55 payloads (including 42 payloads for measuring atmospheric winds under an equatorial wave campaign) were Indian made and 43 payloads (all for regular weekly meteorological M-100 rocket soundings) were Soviet made. Apart from the measurement of winds, the Indian payloads were launched for the measurement of the height profiles of concentrations of ozone, nitric oxide and aerosols upto about 90 km altitude and ion/electron densities and electric fields in the upper atmosphere upto about 150 km altitude.

(b) The expenditure involved in launching one single indigenous sounding rocket (including the cost of rocket and rocket instrumentation/payload) depend^ upon the size of the sounding rocket. The total cost including the rocket, payload, electronic* and other accessaries is about Rs. 1.50 lakhs for meteorological/atmospheric sounding rockets (RH-200 type). A *few* rockets of RH-560 type (carry large pay-loads of about 100 kg reaching altitudes of 300-400 kms), however, cost about Rs. 30.00 lakhs each.

Defence Hospitals in the country

1339. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Def ence Department runs a number of hospi tals to take full care of the health needs of our defence services, and if so, what is the number of large defence hospitals in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Defence hospitals are equipped with some of the latest medical equipments such as surgical lasers, and if so, what is the total number